



THE RIO NEWS.

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NUMBER 3

WILSON, SONS & CO.
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Incorporated under Laws of the State of New York, 1856.

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Yellow-fever, Typhus, Pneumonia, Scarlet-fever,

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For sale at the

Pharmacia Central Homeopathica

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Successor to LIMA CASTRO & NASCIMENTO,

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Rio de Janeiro.

[January 19th, 1897.]

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Authorized by Imperial Decree No. 8,057 of
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(£3,620,805), having received the respective premium
amounting to £169,100.00 (£3,320).No other company has ever taken so large a risk up to
the present date.COMMERCIAL UNION
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INSURANCE COMPANY, LTD.

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Reserve fund £1,328,751

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Agent: P. E. Swanwick.

4, Travessa do Conselho da Saracura.

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ASSURANCE CO., LTD.

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LIMITED.

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CORY BROTHERS & CO., LTD., London

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A constant supply of fresh steam coal "Cory's" Merthyr
always on hand. Prompt delivery at reasonable prices.

Tugboats always ready for service.

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DEPOT:

Ilha dos Ferreiros

Travellers' Directory.

São Paulo:

Daily express leaves Central Railway station at 6 a.m.;
returning leaves S. Paulo at 5 a.m.
Numerous steamers weekly to Santos, connecting with
the São Paulo Railway.

Caçambú and Lambary:

Central Railway (S. Paulo express) to Cruziero, thence
to Minas and Rio Railway to destination.

Juiz de Fora, Barbacena, Ouro Preto, etc.:

Daily express leaves Central Railway station at 6:45 a.m.;
connects with all the branch lines along the main line (Minas
Gerais) of that railway.

Petropolis:

Hence leaves the Petropolis at 4 p.m. daily, except Sundays
and holidays, to connect with railway at Maná. Passenger
train leaves S. Francisco Xavier station (Central Railway)
at 7 a.m. and 5:15 p.m., on all train lines (passengers should
take the suburban trains at the Central Railway station of
6:25 a.m. and 4:40 p.m. to connect with Petropolis train).
Returning from Petropolis the "taracá" train leaves at
7:30 a.m., except Sundays and holidays, and the "land land"
trains leave at 6 a.m. and 3:25 p.m.On Sundays and holidays, the boat leaves the Praia das
5 a.m., and returning the train leaves Petropolis at 4 p.m.,
giving excursions about six hours in Petropolis.

Nova Friburgo:

Boat leaves the Praça das Matinhos at 6 a.m. daily and
3 p.m. on Saturdays, to connect with the Leopoldina Rail-
way at São João da Manhã. Returning, trains leave Nina
Pirúgo at 2:25 p.m. daily, and at 6 a.m. on Mondays.

Corcovado:

Regular train week days, leave 51 Rua Cosme Velho
(Laranjeiras) at 8 a.m. and 5:30 p.m., returning
leaving the summit at 7:30 a.m. and 9:30 a.m. and 1, 4:30 p.m.,
On Sundays and holidays, the hours are: ascending 6:45 a.m.,
9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m., 1:20 p.m., 2, 3:30 p.m., 5:15 and 8 p.m.;
descending, 8:35, 10:05, 11:35 a.m., 1:15 p.m., 2:35, 4:05, 6:15
and 9 p.m. Each train gives the excursionist half an hour
on the summit.

Official Directory

U.S. LEGATION—Petropolis THOMAS L. THOMPSON
MinisterBRITISH LEGATION—No. 1, Rua Visconde de Itaboráy
(opposite Custom House) Petropolis EDMUND C. H.
PHIPPS, MinisterAMERICAN CONSULATE GENERAL—No. 26, Rua
Thiago Ottoni, Wm. T. TOWNS, Consul GeneralBRITISH CONSULATE GENERAL—No. 1, Rua Vis-
conde de Itaboráy (opposite Custom House) J. WILIAM
G. WAGSTAFFE, Consul General

Church Directory

CHRIST CHURCH—Rua Evangélica Veiga Moura
Service every Sunday at 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. Services
of morning and evening every day of the month and at 9
a.m. on Sunday and at 8 p.m. Services during
the season according to notice. Baptisms after morning
service or at other times by arrangement.HENRY MOSLEY, M.A., British Chaplain
18, Rua das LaranjeirasIGREJA EVANGÉLICA FLUMINENSE—Rua Larga
de São Joaquim, No. 179—Divine service in Portuguese
on Sundays: Prayer meeting at 10 a.m.; Worship at 11
a.m. Biblical class to study the Holy Scriptures, at 5
a.m. Gospel preaching, at 6:15 p.m. on Wednesdays
Biblical study, and preaching at 7 p.m.

JOÃO M. G. DOS SANTOS, Pastor

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH—Largo do
Caiçara, English service every Sunday: Prayer
meeting at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. Sundays;
Presbyterian services, at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. Sundays;2 p.m. Wednesdays—E. A. TULLY and MINDOL
DE CARMARGO, Pastors. Sunday School, 11, 12, 13, 14
Fabrics, Cane, Soap, etc. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14
Rev. FRANK WEDDEBEEK.PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH—No. 1 Travessa Barreiro,
Services in Portuguese every Sunday at 11 a.m. and 7
p.m. Sundays and at 7 p.m. Thursdays.JAMES B. RODGERS, Pastor.
Residence: Rua Princesa Imperial 33.BAPTIST CHURCH—Rua de São João No. 25
Services in Portuguese every Sunday at 11 a.m. and
7 p.m.; and every Wednesday at 7 p.m.W. B. BAGBY, Pastor.
Caixa 352.IGREJA PRESBITERIANA DA RUA HUERFANO—274
Rua D. Antônio Nogueira da Machado, Services
Sunday at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Wednesdays 7 p.m.
FRANKLIN H. NASCIMENTO, Pastor. Primary
School in the church building.

Professional Directory

Dr. William Frederick Eisenlohr, German Physician,
Office: 58, Rua General Camara. Consulting hours
from 12 to 3 p.m.English and Americans wishing to learn Port-
uguese should apply to Dr. L. MARCHANT, No. 1,
Travessa de São Francisco

Miscellaneous.

AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY'S AGENCY—No. 26
Rua d'Ajuda, 11, C. T. CULKER, Agent.BRITISH AND FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY'S AG-
ENCY—Rua Sete de Setembro No. 21—On sale, the
Holy Scriptures in Portuguese, English, French, German,
Italian, Spanish and other languages.

JOÃO G. DOS SANTOS, Agent.

BRITISH SUBSCRIPTION LIBRARY AND READING
ROOM—11, Rua Gonçalves Dixie. Open from noon to
6 p.m. For terms, apply to Librarian.RIO SEAMEN'S MISSION—Reading Room—
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Lots of books, magazines, papers, etc., also of left-over
clothing, will be gladly received at the Mission at
No. 35, Rua Gonçalves Dixie.YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION—No. 26
Rua da Assembleia, 1st floor. Rooms open from 6 a.m.
to 10 o'clock p.m. Dr. Antonio V. de Andrade, President; Major
A. Clark, General Secretary; R. A. W. Sloan, Treasurer.

Situations Wanted.

Advertisements will be inserted GRATIS under
this head for all deserving English, American
or English-speaking persons, who are unable to
pay for the same.A German-American wishes a position as D. E. book
keeper or any clerical position. Can correspond in English,
German and French.
Address: B. S., 24 this office

WEST COAST ITEMS.

A Santiago telegram says that Dr. Pedro
Montt has been invited to serve as Chilean
ambassador at Buenos Aires.It is said that the opposition in Chile is
very much offended by the nomination of Dr.
Pedro Montt as minister to Buenos Aires.A Santiago telegram of the 17th says the
press association has nominated all the principal
Argentine journalists as corresponding
members. This ought to settle the boundary
dispute at once.Heavy rains and inundations are reported
from Bolivia. In the province of Cuzco the
Patacamayo river has inundated the country,
destroying much property and causing the loss
of several lives.A telegram from Quito says that Alfaro
has been elected President of Ecuador. This
was anticipated, of course. When a man uses
power by revolutionary means, he always manages
to have his position properly legalized by
an election.The problem of how to care for its hyper-
population is causing no slight anxiety in Co-
lombia. The number of lepers in that country
is variously estimated, from 20,000 to 30,000,
and it is increasing steadily. The departments
of Santander, Tolima, and Boyaca have the
greatest number. That of Putumayo the smallest.
Recently a bill was under discussion in the
Colombian congress providing for the isolation
of the leper population, and setting apart the
island of Coiba, near Panama, for that purpose.
To this the people of Putumayo object, for the
reason that, living the smallest number of
lepers, those of other departments should not
be transferred to them. Something must be
done, however, as the disease is spreading with
alarming rapidity.

RIVER PLATE ITEMS.

The alarmists at the River Plate are again
manufacturing reports of yellow fever in Rio,
and are asking for quarantine restrictions.A Buenos Aires telegram of the 14th says
that Engineer Luigi has gone to Bahia Blanca
where work on the Belgrano military port is
to be initiated.There was a renewal of revolutionary
mobs in Uruguay toward the end of last week.
It is now said that the *blancos* have fixed upon
the 23rd inst. as the date for invading Uruguay.
It sounds strange that they should publish the
date.It is stated that much distress exists in the
province of Santa Fé in consequence of the
loss of crops caused by the ravages of the
locusts and an appeal is made to the national
government for help. Autonomy is lost sight
of when money is wanted. The government
proposes to give the Santa Fé colonists \$100,
000 and those of Entre Ríos \$200,000.—*Buenos
Aires Herald*.During the year just ended there were regis-
tered in the city of Buenos Aires 28,819
births, 5,798 marriages and 13,619 deaths.
This is 2,169 more births, 307 more marriages
and 1,320 less deaths than were registered in
1895. The total revenue of the civil registry
for 1896 was \$199,774, the most productive
month being December, during which \$17,555
was received in fees. The month of June pro-
duced the greatest number of births, the month
of December the most marriages and the month
of January the most deaths.—*Times*, Buenos
Aires, Jan. 3.Dame Fortune is notorious for her injustice
and as regards the lottery she frequently jus-
tifies the imputation. Thus the last lottery,
playful on the 31st of December, she favored
a rich banker of Rosario with the *grande*, and
not to let well enough alone she happened to
enlarge him whilst he had a full combination
ticket so that he gained the three great prizes,
one of \$50,000, another of \$20,000 and a third
of \$10,000, or \$80,000 in all. Considering that
there were about a hundred thousand poor
people waiting for the prize, it was cruelly
injustices for her to give it to the banker who
has too much money already.—*Times*, Buenos
Aires.The new year has begun badly with a
reappearance of revolutionary mobs. These,
as usual, mostly come from Buenos Aires
and take the old form of active preparations
for the long threatened *blanco* invasion.
We do not think they are worth repeating in
detail. There is little doubt, however, that
the government is taking military precautions,
or rather continuing and extending these of
last month, and it is said to have all the details
of an elaborate campaign really worked out.
It is also said to be again resorting to the
abominable practice of pressing, in the camp,
although many of the unfortunate men pressed
last month are still detained. For this practice
no condemnation can be too severe, and it
can only be taken as a proof that the govern-
ment is conscious of its own insecurity and
unpopularity.—*Montevideo Times*, Jan. 3.The Italian cruiser *Piemonte* arrived at
Buenos Aires on the 17th inst.Complaints continue to be made of the
impression of Brazilians by Uruguayan
military officials along the frontier.Julio de Castillos, governor of Rio Grande,
has had the report denied that he is pro-
tecting the Uruguayan revolutionists.A Montevideo telegram of the 17th says
that large troops of horses are going from
Entre Ríos into Brazil, where they are to serve
for the projected invasion of Uruguay.The December receipts of the Montevideo
customs-house amounted to 654,781.75, or a
considerable decrease from the receipts of last
year. For the whole country, comprising
"estimated" receipts for points outside of Montevideo,
the customs receipts last year were \$10,262,707, against \$10,624,665 in 1895.Our contemporaries continue to make
alarming calculations as to the amount of the
bill that the government will present on ac-
count of the revolution. Amongst other items
there is said to be one for the sum of \$800,000
from *Portaria* and *Cuia* for the supply of
military uniforms and equipments. *Portaria*
and *Cuia* consists of Deputy Chacaburu
Ateaga and other friends of the government.
It is not altogether surprising, then, that the
Nación, Sr. Arcega's paper, should regard the
past year as one of prosperity, and should ex-
press itself as so eminently satisfied with the
situation. Possibly it would like another
revolution every six months at the same time.
As we have remarked before, it can hardly go on.
That *blanco* *Montevideo Times*.The Argentine ss. *Tiempo* has completed
the first of the five voyages with cattle to Rio
for account of Messrs. Juan C. Longue & Co.
of this city. During that voyage the steamer
labored heavily on a moderately high sea, when
the crew were on the point of abandoning her.
On a report to that effect being made to the
charterers they applied to the port authorities
for the appointment of a survey. The naval
surveymen and inspector of engines were told
off to hold a survey and they report that the
Tiempo is an iron steamer 35 years old, her
hull from the water-line upwards is apparently
in fair condition, the other portion of the hull
requiring a thorough inspection in a dry-dock.
The interior part of the hull is in a remarkable
stage of neglect, as no scrapping or painting
has taken place during the last two years. The
rust on rivets, etc., has been covered over with
rust-in-paint. The ventilation in the twin-deck
is good, not so in the hold, where live-stock
should not be allowed. She possesses water
tanks for 63 1/2 tons and can furthermore
condense 4 tons per day. A number of the boiler
tubes were found in a useless condition and an
examination of the two boilers resulted in the
discovery of the fact that one of them leaked
under a pressure of 70 lbs., while 50 lbs. was
the utmost pressure to which the second boiler
could be tested with comparative safety. The
surveymen came to the conclusion that the
Tiempo is unsatisfactory and that heavy repairs
to the boilers, etc., are necessary prior to her
being ordered to the port. The inspector of cattle
shipments is now taking up the matter and the
probabilities are that the *Tiempo* will become a
cattle-haul or floating depot.—*Times*, Buenos
Aires, Jan. 4.

LAW IN FREE TRADE?

The incident which occurred in Avellaneda
May 1 has raised the question whether we may
indulge in freedom of speech in our own
country or whether we are bound so to control our
views and their expressions as not to offend the
excited susceptibilities of some foreign
element residing among us. A considerable
number of Argentines, for reasons which to
them seemed good, met and formulated certain
views of sympathy for the revolutionists of
Cuba. This has not been satisfactory to certain
Spanish residents here and this offence has
been shown in a violent and raucous manner.
The question is whether we must consult
foreigners before we venture on an
opinion. We think not. We contend that
we have a right to hold and express our opinion
we may choose to form regarding any people
and any war that may be found anywhere. It
is not our duty to consult the feelings of those
who hold different views, they having the same
right as we claim for ourselves. The act of
those who violated the peace and order of the
city because Argentines sympathize with Cuba
and say so is indefensible and should once for
all be condemned in a manner that will leave it
to be understood that no section of foreign
or native element can suppress free speech and
freedom of opinion. There was nothing said
about Spain, but free Cuba was the subject
of sympathy and this was right and should be
defended at whatever cost. If we may not
have favour free Cuba, or free any other place,
what becomes of our right of thought and
expression? We may as well meet this question
now and here as anywhere else, and defend our
rights as guaranteed by the constitution, and if
there be any section of foreigners which cannot
stand that they would do well to go home and
leave the field to those who can abide a differ-
ence of opinion. We by no means hold the
acts of the ruffians who shot a man because he
should free Cuba as representative of decent
Spaniards residing here, but of vulgar ruffians,
however well dressed, but the authorities should
leave no doubt as to whether Argentines in
their own country may or may not express an
opinion as to the struggles of kindred people
for freedom.—*Buenos Aires Herald*.

Banks.
LONDON AND BRAZILIAN BANK, LIMITED.

Capital..... £ 1,500,000
 Capital paid up..... 11 750,000
 Reserve fund..... 11 600,000

HEAD OFFICE: LONDON.

BRANCH OFFICE IN RIO DE JANEIRO
 10, Rue da Alfandega

Draws on Head Office and the following Branches and Agencies:
 LISBON, OPORTO, FARÁ,
 PERNAMBUCO, BAHIA, SANTOS, SÃO PAULO
 CAMPINAS, RIO GRANDE DO SUL,
 PELOTAS, PORTO ALEGRE, MONTEVIDEO,
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Rio de Janeiro 1st December 1895.

From *The New York Times*, Dec. 6.

MODERN HOSPITAL TREATMENT.

"The tramp who is injured in the streets of New York receives better care and better surgical treatment than any sovereign in Europe could have commanded twenty-five years ago."

So said an eminent physician to me a few days ago; and, with my recollections of germ-eaten Bellevue, (as it was when I knew it,) and of such slaughter-houses as the old-time Park Hospital and the later Chambers Street Hospital, I was not prepared to accept the statement with my great enthusiasm. But it was a subject worth inquiring into; not so much on behalf of the tramp, who is proof against anything but soap, as in the interest of any respectable citizen who may be hurt in the streets, and more particularly for the benefit of such visiting strangers as may meet with accident, with no friend or acquaintance on the island, possibly, to whom to look for help or sympathy. If in the general change of affairs New York has acquired such hospital methods as the doctor's remark implied, it is worth knowing.

To make such an inquiry it was necessary to take an imaginary injured man at the place of the accident and follow him through the police stage, the ambulance stage, and the reception hospital stage, and then stand by him while he underwent repairs, while he was put to bed, and when he afterward walked out restored to health. That was what I did.

The policeman came first; for a person who is injured in the street is immediately taken in charge by the police. "Taken in charge" in one sense, but not in the police sense. The officer is there to give assistance, to keep back the crowd, to carry or assist the injured person to the nearest place of refuge. The victim is under no restraint whatever. If he is able to walk away, he is at liberty to do so. If he declines to go to a hospital, neither the officer nor the arriving ambulance surgeon has the least authority or desire to compel him.

"Suppose that I were injured in the street here in front of you," I asked a very intelligent officer in Sixth Avenue, without whom would you do?"

"Help you or carry you into the nearest drug store or hotel," he replied, "and send for an ambulance."

"What ambulance?" I asked.

"From the hospital for this district, which is the Flower Hospital," he answered. "I should call up police headquarters on the telephone, and tell them to send a Flower ambulance here. You see, the city is divided into hospital districts. From this district we send injury cases to the Flower Hospital; from another, to Bellevue, and from the others, to the Presbyterian, Roosevelt, St. Luke's, the New York, and so on."

"But suppose I did not care to go to the Flower Hospital?" I asked. "I might prefer some other."

"Well," he answered, "if you wanted to go to the New York, for instance, I would ask them to send a New York ambulance. I couldn't ask them to send an ambulance away down from St. Luke's, you know."

"But I might object to going to any hospital at all," I urged. "What would you do in such a case?"

"Olt, well," he laughed, "if you were strong enough to sit up and argue the case, you would better send for a carriage and go wherever you liked."

Within a few minutes after the accident the ambulance arrives, with its surgeon and its simple appliances for stopping a flow of blood or easing pain. It has the softest, easiest springs that can be produced, and a comfortable stretcher. The surgeon makes a hasty examination, and does what he can for the patient's comfort. If blood is flowing, he stops it; if a limb is broken, he puts it in an easy posture; if there is great pain, he gives a little brandy or perhaps a hypodermic injection of morphine. The ambulance is nothing more than a long wagon made comfortable for the patient; and its surgeon's work

is merely to keep him alive and easy till he reaches the hospital. The ambulance stretcher is a great thing. It is carried into the drug store to receive the patient, and he does not leave it till he is in the surgical ward of the hospital. Like the policeman in this case, it is a thing of mercy, not an instrument of restraint. He who objects to lying upon it may sit up.

To learn of the hospital treatment I selected St. Luke's, because as that is the newest it may fairly be supposed to have the very latest appliances. If Dr. Wood, the house surgeon, is as obliging to his patients as he was to me in showing me everything I wished to see, they are in good hands.

On the arrival of the ambulance at St. Luke's the stretcher is lifted out, but carrying it with its patient to the elevator is a thing of the past. The latest appliance is a bicycle carriage, or, more properly, a double tricycle, with a large wheel at each side and a small one at each end, all with pneumatic tires. This is so arranged that it is a complete stretcher itself; or the ambulance stretcher may be laid on top of it. Smoothly and noiselessly it is run upon the elevator, and in a jiffy the patient is in the operating rooms, at the top of the building.

We went first into the operating room proper, and saw its white marble floor and white glazed brick walls. Everything about it is snowy white, and everything of marble, glazed bricks, metal, or glass. They can turn the hose on it and wash it from top to bottom. In glass cases were the instruments, all kept sterilized and ready for instant use. Indeed, they were at the moment preparing for an operation, and four or five young men in long white aprons were making things ready. The instruments and the aprons and other paraphernalia gave the room a formidable look, though every appliance was for safety and comfort.

"These things are enough to frighten the patient to death," I suggested, "if he sees them."

"He does not see them," the doctor answered. "He is taken first to the etherizing room, and is brought here unconscious."

We went next to the etherizing room, where the patient about to be operated upon half lay on one of the bicycle stretchers looking, I thought, very unconcerned. He had not yet taken the ether, and as it was an operation for the relief of hernia, he could have got up even then and walked out if he had chosen.

Does it make one's flesh creep to see it? Let me ask the same question about the dentist's forceps; and they give pain, while these things are all for the prevention of pain. When the ether is given there are several doctors and nurses in attendance. One doctor has his fingers constantly on the patient's pulse, and there is no guess-work. The man goes quietly to sleep; and when he awakes he is lying comfortably in bed, and it is all over.

In the theatre under the cupola, where operations can be performed before medical classes, everything is of brick, or marble, or iron. And from there we went into the sterilizing room, where they sterilize the towels and aprons in steam chambers. Not a towel or an apron is touched by hands that have not first been sterilized also. Steam kills any possible germs in the textile fabrics, and for the hands weak solutions of bichloride of mercury or carbolic acid are used. These things are used also in washing the wound itself and the instruments, and this constitutes that great modern improvement that we call antiseptic surgery.

"What is the greatest improvement you have made in recent years, doctor?" I asked.

"In very recent years, I think our method of treating compound fractures," he replied. "Suppose that a man is run over by a truck, and one leg completely mashed, with bits of bone protruding through the skin. Formerly amputation of the leg was the only relief for

[January 19th 1897.]

such an injury. Now we are able to save the leg. We etherize the patient, open the wound and wash it out thoroughly with soap and water. There is nearly always dirt in a wound after a street accident. Then every bit of bone is put in place, the whole is sewn up and well bandaged, and with antiseptic treatment, the leg becomes sound again.

"If an injured patient is dirty, we wash him. If he is badly run down, weak, perhaps poorly nourished, we build him up with proper food, stimulants, and tonics."

"What does this treatment cost?" I asked.

"Nothing," he replied. "That is, the patient who can pay nothing receives exactly the same treatment as the man who can pay \$50 a week. We like to make some little charge when it can be done, so that the patient will not feel like a pauper. If he is richer, he can pay \$3 a week. If he is able, he can pay more. There are certain afternoons, when his friends can visit him for, of course, we cannot have the wards always full of visitors. But in case his life is in immediate danger, we always send for his friends, and they can remain constantly with him."

This refers to the patients who go into the wards; but there are such things as private rooms in St. Luke's and in most of the hospitals. There have always been private rooms, of course, but the modern management of them is new to me; I imagine that it is not understood to most people.

For instance: I can go to St. Luke's, and for \$21 a week I can have a private room, with board, medicines, medical and surgical attendance, and a trained nurse constantly with me. There I am in a hotel, and can have anything I want. Not only can my friends visit me at any hour of the day or night, but they can be constantly with me. Indeed, they can rent the next room and live with me, as they could in any other hotel. Outside the hospital the nurse alone would cost me \$25 a week. Inside, I can pay more, if I desire a better room.

The impression left after making this investigation is that the person who is injured in the street falls into good hands, and receives at least as good care as he could receive anywhere in the world. Many of these appliances were not possible half a generation ago, when there were no telephones, no pneumatic tires, no sterilizing boilers. That the ambulance surgeons, house surgeons, and the rest are all young men is still true; and physicians say that these young men are better for that work than older ones. But the young men do not do the important work. The staff of every big hospital includes surgeons and physicians eminent in every department, who cannot live in the building; and for the important cases one of these men is instantly summoned by telephone.

The old-fashioned dread of a hospital still lingers in some good old-fashioned minds, but those minds may rest easy in New York, for here no man can be taken to a hospital against his will, except in cases of contagious disease. In your hotel, in your lodging house, you may be too ill to move, too poor to pay. "You must go to the hospital," your landlord may say; and then you can laugh at him, if you feel like laughing. The policeman he sends for will tell him that he cannot touch you. The ambulance surgeon will tell him the same thing. The whole police department, assisted by the entire ambulance corps, cannot take one poor, old sick man out of his unpaid-for room in this city unless he is willing to go.

WILLIAM DRYSDALE.

In Germany the official organs seem to be averse to the Anglo-American arbitration treaty. This might be expected. Arbitration will tend to go away with war, and in consequence there will be no need of standing armies. The military caste will therefore be obliged to seek other occupation. For the German Kaiser this would be disastrous, as well as for his hosts of military parasites. The cause of arbitration will go on, however, in spite of his objections.

THE CANADIAN IMMIGRANTS.

The *European Mail* of December 23rd contains the following notes in regard to the French Canadian immigrants brought out to São Paulo some months ago:

The Foreign Office is stated to have received communications from the British representatives in Brazil in regard to the condition of the French-Canadian emigrants who went to that country a few months ago. It appears that the Brazilian government itself is not responsible for the emigration, or for the promises that were held out, the agreements having been made on behalf of the government of the province of São Paulo with an Indian emigration society. It is reported that none of the promises made to the immigrants are being carried out. A considerable number of them are now in distress, and the outlook before the remainder is particularly dismal, especially in view of the approaching unhealthy season. Communications are said to be taking place with the Canadian government on the subject, and they are arranging for the return of the emigrants. Such a *contretemps* is unfortunate for the public, as it will discourage emigrants of the best class.

One of these emigrants, who worked his way back to the Dominion, states that when they reached Santos they were huddled together in a barge like a fit of cattle and taken to São Paulo, their food consisting of a piece of dry bread and a little cheese. At São Paulo they were shoved into a barrack, where they were kept in confinement for eight days. They tried to get work but could not. The only employers that appeared were the owners of the coffee and sugar plantations, who wanted the Indians to sign a contract to work for ten years, cutting down bush and cultivating the plants that would then be put in, and then at the end of that period the workers, if they survived, would receive for their hire one-half of the value of the plantation, which might turn out worthless. The houses they were to live in during this time were mere huts with no windows.

The *Chemist and Druggist* expresses surprise that tonic herbs and medicinal balsams, which are such valuable export products from Venezuela, and from Pará, in Brazil, should not be among exports of the colony of British Guiana, where they grow as plentifully as in any portion of the primeval forest that covers the territory between the Amazon and the Atlantic. The \$12 yearly license imposed by the colony when some inconvenient in this direction was made recently, seems to have smothered the infant industry at its birth. It is another example of taxing an industry out of existence.

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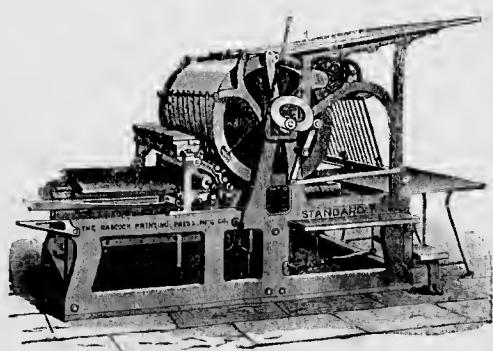
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Missing Friends.

Information wanted at the British Consulate General, No. 2, Rio General Camara as to the following:

NEWMAN, John—Left his native town Zembla, Germany, about 20 years ago for Rio de Janeiro. Information regarding him is desired at the British consulate.

Rio de Janeiro, October 17th, 1896.

tumtly been disappointed. Rio Grande has, it is true, been pacified, but the financial position of the country has been steadily growing worse. In consequence of illness, President Moraes, in whom confidence was felt, has now been obliged to retire, and the Vice-President, Dr. Pereira, has succeeded to power. Considering that President Moraes was unable to effect reforms, it is not thought probable that the new President will be more successful; indeed, it is feared that the country's financial position may become steadily worse.

In November 1891, prior to Dr. Moraes' accession, exchange had never been under 74d., and immediately after the election recovered to over 1s. This year exchange fell at one time to about 74d., which contrasts with rates ranging between 22d. and 27 1/2d. in the years immediately preceding the revolution of 1889. This great fall in exchange has been chiefly due to the enormous increase in the note circulation, and to continued heavy borrowings by the government. Reforms are talked of, but nothing is done to make them effective. Leaps are issued to redeem the paper currency, but the notes are never encashed. All branches of the government departments have been filled by those who supported the revolution, and salaries are paid for merely nominal services. As a result of this policy and of the chronic deficiencies of the exchequer, the railways belonging to the government have been permitted to fall into ruin, rendering day travelling extremely hazardous, with travelling light not to be thought of. Shareholders in a well-known Brazilian mining company know to their cost the condition of the railways, which has so seriously retarded the development of their property. As special importance attaches at the present moment to the condition of the Central railway, which is being disposed of by the Brazilian government, we give the following remarkable extracts from the last reports of the mining company in question:—

"The work throughout the year has been most seriously hindered by the deplorable condition of the Central railway. Some two years ago it was thought that it had degenerated into the lowest possible state in which it could work, but since then it has been gradually declining, (i) we at length arrive at a point when stoppages are frequent, and, when it does work, it is dangerous to both life and property. There is probably not another commercial enterprise in Brazil of such vital importance to the country as this trunk railway; yet, in the condition it has been of late, a good bullock-cart road would compare favourably with it from a useful point of view." In his last report the mining manager referred to states that "Accidents on the line have been of daily occurrence, and travelling thereby is consequently dangerous, as the line itself is in a most deplorable condition, and the rolling stock likewise." And what is true of the railway service is also true of every other department of the government. The officials in Brazil appear to be of the opinion that the government is for the purpose of finding them employment, and that they need do nothing for their pay. Such a condition of affairs cannot last long without disaster, and it is therefore absolutely essential that those railway companies which rely upon the Brazilian government for the payment of their guarantees and interest should, as far as possible, take precautionary measures with regard to the future.

The sale of the Central railway, whose condition is now so deplorable, to a European syndicate, would be a good thing for Brazil, for with one of the principal railways so badly administered that it is dangerous to entrust it with the transmission of goods, the material prosperity of the country greatly suffers. At the same time, the object of the Brazilian government in disposing of the line is not so much to improve the public service as to obtain immediate cash. Further, the sale of the line will not materially reduce the outlays of the government, which has promised to find employment for a very large number of the officials of the company, who are certain to be dismissed as soon as a private company acquires the property. Are the directors of English companies owing Brazilian railways alive to this position? And if they are, are they taking precautions against the possibility that some day guarantees may not be forthcoming in order that the railways may not default on their interest payments? or, further, that the lines which do not earn their expenditure should not have to abandon their

[January 19th, 1897.]

THE RIO NEWS

PUBLISHED WEEKLY.

A. J. LAMOURUX, Editor and Proprietor.

properties? The Brazilian railway companies owned in England have, so far, not suffered from the present deplorable position of the country; their guarantees, notwithstanding the low rate to which exchange has fallen, have been regularly met, and, in the case of companies having no guarantee, they have been given the power to raise their tariffs to an extent which has compensated them for their loss by exchange. But are the directors certain that these payments will indefinitely continue? We trust and hope that Brazil will awaken to a sense of her position and reform her finances, but at present the prospects are not hopeful. Consequently it is essential that the railway directors should endeavour to increase the earnings of their companies to the utmost possible extent in order that loss in their bond and shareholders shall be reduced to a minimum should the Brazilian government at any time find itself unable to meet its engagements. And while we wish to warn directors of Brazilian railways as to the danger of being unprepared for possible contingencies, we would also urge share and debenture-holders of Brazilian railway companies to insist upon their directors taking every measure for increasing the earnings of the properties, and as far as possible making them self-supporting. With the exception of the São Paulo and the Rio Claro São Paulo, none of the Brazilian railways, as indicated by their last reports, touch more than one-third of their expenditure, while many of them even fail to do that. The reports of some of the companies in this matter are misleading. They calculate exchange at 27d. per milreis, and thus show very much larger net earnings than they actually obtain. But exchange has recently been to under 8d., and is still only about 9d., with the prospect, sooner or later, that it will again sink to its previously low level when the money obtained by the side of the railway has been expended in the same way as the proceeds of previous loans.

Next week we propose to deal with the position of each of the 13 guaranteed lines.

TESTIMONIAL.

The undersigned, who have had the pleasure of travelling to Europe on the R. M. S. S. *Clyde* for the first time since that vessel has been entrusted to the command of Captain Powles, wish to take this opportunity of expressing their warm gratitude to that officer for the cordial manner in which he has endeavoured in every way to meet their wishes and for the constant attention which he has shewn to their comfort during the voyage home.

Julie de L. Vurick.
Tommy Clayton
Arthur Rakes
Charles Note
J. Leonard Varick
A. B. Clayton
Edward B. S. Beest
Lyon H. Marks
H. S. Allen
G. A. Holmes
Richard Whitechello
Harold A. Dale
Ludliff E. Ducker
Hugh Beckett Jr.
Chas. F. Raitton
H. S. Beiness
E. B. Hodges
L. R. Copley
Morris Dowx
H. L. Wheatley
E. Becker
Thos. J. Mattos
Affonso dos Reis Taveira
Cyrino de Cardoso
Genesio de Cardoso
Antonio Lydia de Souza Ferraz
Delfino Ignacio Caetar
Alfredo Ignacio Pereira Ramalho
Antonio Lopes de Oliveira
G. Guimaraes
J. Edward Home
December, 1896.

It is reported that a party of explorers in Venezuela has just discovered what must rank as one of the greatest waterfalls of the world, the explorers were following the route of a river when they found it burst diagonally through an almost perpendicular cliff, which is estimated to be 1,500 feet in height, break into half a dozen different streams which divide and subdivide, spread out into broad, fan-like expansions, and twist about in such a curious corkscrew fashion that the water at the bottom of the falls flows exactly in the opposite direction from the course it holds where it first comes into view. By clinging to bushes and going up the giant creepers hand over hand, these men climbed up the cliff until a meridional indicated an elevation of more than 200 feet. It was impossible to reach the top and learn how much higher the falls are, but it is believed they are about 1,500 feet.—*European Mail*.

a system is demoralizing in every respect, and as long as it is maintained it will be practically impossible to have an efficient service, unless the law imposes a fine on the official for every failure to prove his suspicion true, and gives the victim an appeal to some outside tribunal to decide the dispute.

There is that other abuse—the levying of fines—which also demands reform. According to the laws, or their *regulamentos*, any official has the power to levy fines and collect them. This is another prolific source of injustice and vexation. If the official detecting an infraction of the law had only the right to report it, leaving the penalty to his chief, or to some court, he would think twice before trying to impose upon his victim. But there is no such requirement. Apparently every official has the power to impose a fine. Even the dirty, slouching, inebriated "water-guard," who blackmails you into paying him five or ten milreis a month by shutting off your water supply, can impose a fine for some infraction, real or imaginary, of the *regulamento*, and he has the power to make you pay it, too! And in many public departments, such as the postoffice, a clerk can fine you for using language to him which he considers "offensive." A people who submit to such impositions, are practically slaves. If they were possessed with a grain of spirit they would break down all such regulations at once and forever. It puts the citizen, no matter how rich, intelligent and public-spirited he may be, wholly at the mercy of the meanest official in the public service. If Brazil can not be governed without the imposition of fines for every trifling departure from routine regulations, then let them be settled by the courts. If the water guard thinks that a citizen has incurred a fine, let him first report the case to his chief, and then let the citizen be called before a praeator to give explanations. If the citizen proves that no infraction of the law had occurred, let him go free, and let the guard be reprimanded and fined the expenses of the court. This is no more than fair. The public official is a public servant, and has no right whatever to enjoy immunities from the consequences of his own wrong doing. Until all citizens, including public officials, are put on the same level before the law, we shall never be free from these impositions. No one who obeys and respects the law can wish to avoid the consequences of his acts, but it is only common justice that he should have a fair hearing.

We are inclined to believe that no change will be made in the methods of marketing coffee at this port unless the planters themselves demand it. The exporters and other *intermediaries* are not particularly interested, for their profits remain much the same, no matter what the methods are by which coffee is handled and shipped. The consumer pays according to the supply, and he has little or no interest in a question which directly concerns the producer. It is for the planter, therefore, to act. At the present time he is complaining of the extremely low price which he is receiving, which means that the supply is large and the consumer is able to force the market down. The expenses of marketing the product are therefore for account of the producer. Were these expenses decreased it may be assumed that the planter would receive nearly that much more for his product. In view of this, he ought to insist upon the suppression of every unnecessary expense at the port of shipment. He has lately had a 50 per cent reduction in transportation rates, which are absurdly low, and which no private company can continue unless the loss is offset by some favor within the gift of the government. Such a favor, in our opinion, is to be found in the suggestion made in these columns some weeks ago in regard to the concentration of the coffee business at the *Gambôa* station. If the central railway could have the privilege of storing and ship-

ping coffee, or of furnishing store-houses and shipping facilities, some recompense would be gained to offset the low freight rates now ruling, while at the same time the planter would also benefit in the savings on cartage and waste. At present the cartages through the streets of this city involve at least three transfers, viz.:—from railway to the *comissários*' deposits, thence to the *ensacadores*' deposits, and thence to the *dous nacionais* for shipment. These transfers involve not only considerable expense in cartage, but also much waste—a part of which represents just so much loss to the planter. If now the coffee could be sent to the *Gambôa* station, to be stored, blended, sold and shipped on the premises, a great saving would result, the greater part of which would go into the planter's own pocket. We do not now discuss the question of eliminating any of the intermediate agencies in the transaction (except that of the *dous nacionais*); we simply suggest the abolition of all unnecessary cartage and its consequent waste. As for the *dous nacionais*, the only saving would be in the elimination of the thieving which is so scandalously common in that establishment, for the charges would probably be just the same at the railway piers. The benefit would lie in the better protection of the product at the railway warehouses, and the elimination of the political influences which protect the maladministration of the *dous*. The scheme is certainly worth the consideration of the coffee planter. It may not yield all the benefits we anticipate, but if the railway is permitted to concentrate the storage and shipment of coffee at the *Gambôa* station, leasing offices and warehouses to dealers and exporters for that purpose, we are confident that a very great saving will result and that the planters will benefit largely from it.

THE STRANGERS' HOSPITAL.

Since our last report the Treasurer advises the receipt, from the 14th December, 1896, to 20th January, 1897, of the following donations and annual subscriptions:

Donations:	
Ed. R. Duffield, £20 00 8d/16,.....	5605 580
A. C. Nathan,.....	250 000
Gastavus Gudgeon & Co.,.....	250 000
A. Well-wisher,.....	200 000
Edmund C. H. Phillips,.....	150 000
Chas. Jackson,.....	100 000
Anonymous (F. V.),.....	100 000
D. C. Steffo,.....	50 000
C. Lefebvre,.....	30 000
Anonymous thro: H. D. Train,.....	20 000
S. Kilburn,.....	10 000
Annual subscriptions:	
The Brazilian Coal Co. Ltd.,.....	1,000 000
Rio de Janeiro City Improvements Co., 1895-6	500 000
do 1896-7	500 000
Walter Block & Co., 1895-6	500 000
do 1896-7	500 000
Philip Schmidt & Co.,.....	300 000
Cecil Black,.....	200 000
H. W. Pritchard,.....	200 000
H. A. de Lisle,.....	200 000
Frank Dennis,.....	100 000
Frank Webb,.....	100 000
A. E. Narrow,.....	100 000
C. F. Hargreaves,.....	100 000
Geo. E. Cox,.....	100 000
Crashley & Co.,.....	100 000
H. Dennis Jr.,.....	100 000
John S. Keigh,.....	100 000
H. Rogers Sons & Co.,.....	100 000
H. Schierk,.....	50 000
Castello Miles,.....	50 000
H. Evers,.....	50 000
F. W. Perkins,.....	50 000
H. Campbell,.....	50 000
Cecil H. J. Allen,.....	50 000
H. Robertson,.....	50 000
G. W. Gibbs,.....	50 000
G. N. Green,.....	50 000
W. McRobert,.....	50 000
C. Murly,.....	50 000
E. C. Bowra,.....	50 000
C. D. Simmonds,.....	50 000
Ed. Haynes,.....	50 000
H. D. Train,.....	50 000
H. P. Smith,.....	50 000
Edmond Lynch,.....	50 000
T. M. Williams,.....	50 000
J. T. Moore,.....	50 000
C. H. Lloyd,.....	50 000
A. Ridgway,.....	50 000
C. N. Atley,.....	50 000
A. G. Weigall,.....	50 000
H. A. Tripp,.....	50 000
G. Shaw,.....	50 000
H. J. Reeves,.....	50 000
J. B. Orr,.....	50 000
M. Fletcher,.....	25 000
H. T. Whyte,.....	25 000
<i>Judges' Relief Fund:</i>	
Recd. from Christ Church, 1748980	
Premium on silver, 3500	178 880

THE NEW V. M. C. A. BUILDING.

We are glad to see that the work of completing the partly finished edifice on Rua da Quitanda (No. 36), recently purchased for the Young Men's Christian Association, is now being actively pushed. The property is a valuable one and the new building, when completed, will be an ornament to the business section of the city.

We have already stated that this unfinished building was purchased for the society by Sr. J. Fernandes Braga, and that the society has been given easy conditions of payment. Another friend of the society has volunteered to loan the amounts necessary to complete the edifice, if required. With such support the V. M. C. A. of Rio will soon have one of the finest business blocks in Rio, which will contain two large warehouses on the street and a large number of excellent offices on the first floor, for rental, in addition to spacious quarters for itself on the second floor.

The plans show that the building will be elegant in appearance, three stories in height, and will be very conveniently arranged for its tenants. The offices and warehouses will be well lighted, and ventilated, and the plumbing will be thoroughly well done.

For themselves the young men will have a large assembly room for their meetings, directors' room, reading-room, gymnasium, etc. It would be good policy, in our opinion, for the British Subscription Library to obtain permanent quarters in this edifice.

Although it is expected that the building will yield a good income when finished, the society will need a large sum of money to finish the work of construction, furnishing, etc., in addition to what is required to pay off its debt. To meet this, subscriptions are solicited here in Rio, in England and in the United States. The object is good and can not fail to yield good results, and we anticipate a generous response to the appeals for help which the society is sending out.

PROVINCIAL NOTES

—Cases of yellow fever have appeared in Pará.

—The thermometer registered 82 Fahr. at Pará on Christmas day.

—A commercial association was formally inaugurated in Macaos on the 1st inst.

—A police soldier committed suicide in São Paulo on the 14th by throwing himself from the viaduct.

—During the past year there were registered in Santos 214 marriages, 1,143 births and 1,770 deaths.

—On the 13th inst. the governor of S. Paulo was insulted at his official residence by no insure woman.

—During the past year there were 77 marriages, 644 births and 456 deaths in the town of Vila São Paulo.

—At Santos disturbances were caused on Saturday by soldiers who were in that city on their way to Rio Grande.

—The governor of Sergipe has called an extra session of the state legislature, commencing on the 15th prox.

—There were 88 marriages, 751 births and 589 deaths in the municipality of Sorocaba, São Paulo, during the past year.

—There were 855 interments in the municipal cemetery of Araraquara, São Paulo, during the past year, of which 469 were of minors.

—The São Paulo police recently discovered thieves' resort about two leagues from that city. Four of the band were arrested on the 12th inst.

—An exceptionally heavy rainfall was experienced in Petrópolis on the 13th inst., causing inundations and considerable damage to property.

—It is stated that 96 newspapers and other periodicals were started in the state of São Paulo during the past year. The number of periodicals is not given.

—Telegrams of the 14th inst. from Santa Catharina say that at Laguna in a disturbance caused by the crews of the steamers *Luzia* and *Cananéia* many persons were wounded.

—There were 36 deaths in Manaus, Amazonas during the last half of November, of which 1 yellow fever, 3 small pox, 2 beriberi, 10 malari fever, and 5 pulmonary consumption.

—The municipal chamber of Campos has passed a resolution endorsing the action of Vice-President Manoel Victorin in sending the troops to that town at the requisition of the federal judge.

—A Porto Alegre telegram of the 18th says that there are over 200 young men belonging to Uruguayan families in Uruguay awaiting the outbreak of the expected revolution in Uruguay, when they intend to join the revolutionists.

—An Aracaju telegram of the 14th says that Gov. Garcez had ordered the prosecution of certain municipal councillors because he found that the election had gone against him. These elections are becoming more and more farcical every day.

—At Pará a letter sent from New-York with two 50¢ notes whose withdrawal from circulation had been announced, reached their destination without the notes. This has excited much comment justly derogatory to the Pará post-office, against which, moreover, there are many other complaints. A correspondence of the *Journal do Commercio* will be advisable to close that post-office.

—The *Provincia do Pará* of the 2nd inst. says that the exploring expedition under the leadership of Dr. Hermann Meyer has arrived safe and sound at Cuiabá, Mato Grosso, having successfully crossed the Indian territory in Central Brazil.

—Unfortunately for the *Clarim* of Limeira, São Paulo, new fever cases have appeared in that town, but they are labelled *suspectos*, not yellow fever. Three of them were fatal, and three suspected cases are said to be doing well. How about the *startafogo*, colleague?

—Partial demographic returns from the municipalities of São Paulo for the month of November give 3,515 births and 2,910 deaths. Seven deaths from yellow fever were reported, 5 in Pirassununga and 2 in Limeira. There were also 42 deaths from typhoid fever.

—In addition to the drinking and quarreling among the pilgrims to the Santos-Vesuvius, there appears to have been the customary assassination, for on the 10th of the month a Spaniard was found in the bushes near by who had disappeared two or three days after the eruption.

—The *Provincia* says that M. Courbier left Pará on the night of the 31st ult., on a second exploring expedition up the Tocantins and Araguaia rivers. He is accompanied by his wife and will be gone about five months. These explorations are made at the cost of the state of Pará.

—The November mortality in the city of São Paulo numbered 557, of which 197 were under 5 years of age. Among the causes of death were typhoid fever 15, pulmonary consumption 35, sundry fevers 29, organic diseases of the heart 34, bronchitis 22, pneumonia 19, inflammation and other diseases of the bowels 113.

—Complaints were made last week of the sale of tuberculous beef at the São Paulo abattoir, but the municipal council refused to take any notice of the matter. The secretary of interior, however, instructed the sanitary authorities to make an inquiry. The municipal councils throughout the whole of Brazil are proving themselves absolutely bad and incapable.

—The *Tribuna do Povo*, of Santos, was game to the last. Its editor knew that the flame of the *Urutinhas* gas well was from the interior of the earth on account of its color. A day or two after emitting this opinion some unfeeling investigators extinguished the flame by throwing mud and stones into the hole. And then the *Tribuna* solemnly announced that before the flame died out distinct rumblings in the earth were heard. The water supply in Santos is evidently very bad.

—The *Diário Popular* of São Paulo relates that some days ago the wife of Antônio Coutinho, of Santo Antônio da Cachoeira, had a singular adventure with a large snake. She was nursing an infant child. Feeling slightly ill one day, she lay down on the bed and fell asleep. After a time she was awakened by the crying of the child, when she found a large snake partly encircled under her chemise. On killing the unwearying visitor, a quantity of fresh milk was found in its body, showing that it had been nursing.

—Some time ago there arrived at Pará on the steamer *Paraná* between 700 and 800 immigrants of various nationalities, contracted for work in the interior by a man of the name of Vacca Díez. Finding that their contracts were unsatisfactory, they refused to proceed further and, at the instance of the Spanish consul, were admitted into the government immigrant depot. Some of them, it is stated, have succeeded in obtaining employment. Vacca Díez is a contractor for the Madeira and Manoel railway.

—On the 14th inst. Dr. João Mendes de Almeida published a denunciation of the São Paulo police officials for cruelly beating, imprisoning, flogging and photographing two ex-police because it had been discovered that they had frequented the rooms of the monarchist club in that city. It was certainly gross濫use of power to place their photographs in the *rogues' gallery* for such a cause. The chief of police, Dr. Xavier de Toledo, however, does not think so, for the following day he sent for Dr. João Mendes to give explanations.

—On the 13th inst. Dr. Eduardo Prado and others presented an application to the tribunal of justice of São Paulo for a writ of habeas corpus for the purpose of terminating the restriction imposed upon them by the police officials of that city. On October 31 last they were assembled at a private house for the purpose of discussing the question whether they should present monarchist candidates at the approaching elections, when armed police officials entered and ordered them to disperse and forbade their reunion at any other place, under threats of violence. They claim this to be illegal and a violation of the constitution.

—According to the *Commercio de S. Paulo* the tribunal of justice at São Paulo can hardly be considered eminent for judicial knowledge and impartiality. The application for habeas corpus by certain monarchists was under consideration. It was decided against them because no arrest had been made. One judge thought that habeas corpus could only be applied to the right to go to or return from a meeting, therefore it covered the right of locomotion. Others were in doubt whether the state or federal constitution governed the matter. One was in doubt as to which of these constitutions was first adopted; in case the state constitution was last, it revoked all conflicting clauses in the federal constitution. At any rate, he considered that the monarchists have no political rights. With such judges, São Paulo has a brilliant future before her.

—At Pará a letter sent from New-York with two 50¢ notes whose withdrawal from circulation had been announced, reached their destination without the notes. This has excited much comment justly derogatory to the Pará post-office, against which, moreover, there are many other complaints. A correspondence of the *Journal do Commercio* will be advisable to close that post-office.

—The *Diário Popular* says that the sanitary state of Pirassununga, São Paulo, continues bad. Since the epidemic hospital was opened on Dec. 29th, 18 cases of fever have been received of which 4 have died, 6 were discharged cured, and 8 were still under treatment. The number of cases treated in private residences is not given.

RIO GR. IND. DO SUL.

Capt. Isaac Gomes has preferred charges against Col. Tátonaz Flores, who has been instructed by the government to come to Rio de Janeiro.

—On the 15th inst. Sylvio Pinheiro was relieved of the command of *Castilhos* military brigade and it is stated that his successor will be Col. José Carlos Pinto Junior. In the mean while the brigade is temporarily in charge of the senior battalion commander Col. Alfonso Masson.

—Dr. Francisco Tavares has applied for a writ of habeas corpus in behalf of Estácio Azulondo and Turquato Severo, who are threatened with violence on the pretext of their being connected with revolutionary plots in Uruguay. Refugees from that country continue to enter the state of Rio Grande.

—It is said that ex-Minister Fernando Alvim intends to be a candidate for the governorship of the state, but that Chief of Police Borges de Melo will be the official candidate.

—Juárez de Castilhos has recently promulgated a new election law.

—The *Echo do Sul* says that the municipal council of Rio Grande refuses to improve the attendants' accounts unless money unduly used for payments to the press shall be first returned.

—Councillor Maciel is reported to have had a conference with Vice-President Manoel Victorin in regard to political affairs in Rio Grande.

RAILROAD NOTES

—In Campinas counterfeit tickets of the tramway company have made their appearance.

—The Paulista company has declared a half-yearly dividend at the rate of 12½ per share.

—It is announced that the new time-table on the Central will go into effect on the 23rd inst.

—We are informed that some French engineers are now examining the Central railway in the interests of a French syndicate.

—According to the *Commercio de S. Paulo* the number of persons employed on the Central railway has increased since 1889 from 4,000 to 14,000.

—The new time-table on the Central railway will go into operation, it is announced, on the 23rd inst. This is the second postponement.

—It is stated that the expenses of the Paranaense Central railway show an excess of \$60,000 over the amount of the respective appropriations and that the government intends to prosecute the officials that are responsible for this excess.

—It would be interesting to know how it is possible for any serious proposal to be made for the state railways before May 15th? Syndicates of speculators may do so, but even they must keep within the limit which experienced railway men would establish for the property.

—It is stated that the Central railway will shortly be examined by three representatives of European capitalists who contemplate making a proposal for the lease of the road. Engineer Agustín Mereca, it is said, will receive instructions to accompany and assist them in making the examination.

—The Baldwin Locomotive Works is building 13 locomotives for Japan and 8 for China, besides a considerable number for Brazil, Chile and Argentina have also become customers for these celebrated machines. The Rogers Locomotive Works is likewise building 18 locomotives, smog-type, for Japan.

—The editors of the *China* telegraphed from Portoferry on the 17th that the election of the 31st was a scandalous farce, that contracts for Rattray railway supplies (locomotives, boilers, bridges, rails, coal and cement) have been made without inviting public tenders, that the new contracts for the railway extension have been given in the same way, that there is a monopoly for firewood and other similar abuses, and that political management has corrupted and injured the line.

—At the station of Vila Franca on the Central railway a locomotive exploded on the 12th inst., killing the engine driver, a stoker and a brakeman. A boy and some passengers were also wounded. Some of the fragments of the locomotive were hurled by the force of the explosion to a distance of 80 metres. The locomotive was an old one and was recently repaired in the Central's workshops. It is said that the engine driver had allowed the water to run too low in the boiler.

—For a long time the residents of Santa Theresa have been complaining almost daily of their tramway service. When the electric line was opened it was expected that an improvement would result, but this has proved elusive. A more admirable service could not be invented. The line is managed by a *medico*, who leaves the details to his subordinates, and they amuse themselves by trying to worry and bore the passengers. The service is negligently arranged, slow and most irritating, especially at the hours of 5 to 6.30 p. m., when extra trams ought to be put on. Waiting half an hour for a seat is not enjoyable.

—The Baldwin Locomotive Works has completed an electric locomotive for the Westinghouse company which is said to have a speed of 120 miles an hour.

—It has been settled that the fiscal engineers for railways shall have 6,000\$ a year additional (*gratificação*) and those who undertake the supervision of central sugar factories will have 8,000\$.

—Whether the official investigation of S. Joaquim Bastos Junior's conduct was complete or not, we have no means of knowing; but we are informed that, notwithstanding the many charges against him, the only fact elicited by that investigation is that on one occasion he caused a man to be imprisoned in a freight car. This act the director of the Central railway does not attempt to defend. In fact, he admits that it is censurable; but he nevertheless says that he cannot punish Bastos Junior, since such abuses were at the time not only permitted but even customary. And so Bastos Junior has not been punished, unless indeed his recent promotion to the office of paymaster be considered a punishment.

COFFEE NOTES

The recent rains have been general throughout the coffee districts and have been of great benefit to the growing crop.

LIBERTY COFFEE.

Under date of Montevideo, September 25, 1896, Consul-General Heard reports the following relative to Liberian coffee.

The producing and exporting of Liberian coffee is becoming a subject of great concern to the farmers of this republic. The phenomenal increase in its production is worthy of consideration. The coffee exported during the fiscal year 1886 amounted to 600,000 pounds, while the exports for the year ended June 30, 1896, amounted to 3,000,000 pounds. Farmers, merchants, and people generally have turned their attention to coffee growing. While no American ships touch at any Liberian port, yet more than one-fifteenth of the coffee produced is shipped to the United States via Liverpool. Coffee is the largest export, yet palm oil, palm kernels, cassava, and rubber are shipped in great quantities. If ships from the United States touch at Moura, Rio Bossa, and Cape Palmas, half of the imports would be American, and in turn the exports would go to the United States. The people prefer American produce, save the few Europeans residing here. The reason for this preference is that the people are immigrants from the United States and in habits and life are American. A direct line of steamers from New York or Boston, touching at this port once in two months, would be a paying enterprise. — U. S. Consul.

LOCAL NOTES

—It is reported that the President is not intending to resume power at present, probably not before February 15th.

—A severe epidemic of yellow-fever has been raging at Port-au-Prince, Hayti. Has the minister of interior heard of it?

—The directorship of the Polytechnic school has been filled by the appointment of Dr. Gabriel Osorio de Almeida to that post.

—The *Jornal do Commercio* of Santos says that in tenders of the portfolio of justice and interior have been made to anyone since the appointment and refusal of Dr. Xavier da Silveira.

—On the 16th the supreme tribunal conceded a writ of habeas corpus to Dr. João Mendes de Almeida, president of the Centro Mucuribita of São Paulo, and fixed the 23rd inst. for a hearing of the case.

—The correctional tribunal at Dous Rios, which was opened only last year, has now been closed, after a short and inglorious career. The trouble is, some of the men who were managing it, ought to have been its first inmates.

—The minister of finance has informed the director of the mint that he cannot pay the accounts of artists furnished to that establishment in 1895 by E. Lambert, since no provision was made in the budget for the respective expenditure.

—South says that the microscopic size of the *zimbo* leaves of bread is causing great injury to the eyes of the loyal and heroic citizens of this city. He says that a pocket lens will soon be required by the citizen to find his *pasinho*.

—On the steamer *Colombo* there arrived here on the 11th inst. 197 immigrants contracted for work on railways in Espírito Santo. Although a telegram announcing their arrival was duly sent on that day, no answer was returned, much to the annoyance of the immigrants and of the agents of the steamer. Application was made to the minister of industry for their admittance into the immigrant depot on Ilha das Flores. The minister, however, answered that congress had voted no appropriation for immigration expenses and consequently the immigrants were obliged to remain on board. On the 14th the agents of the Espírito Santo government stated that they had received prompt instruction on the subject, but could not make the necessary arrangements.

[January 19th, 1897.]

—The minister of war has called Col. Thomaz Flores to Rio because of the dispute between himself and Col. Telles. There is probably much more politics than military discipline in this dispute, and the man with the stronger pull will win.

—The ministers of war and marine, both floriantas, have recently taken into their hands to visit each other at their respective departments. The *Páiz* calls this the reorganization of the army and navy. The *Páiz* always was just a trifling imaginative.

—Capt. Paulino de Jesus, commander of the *Douro*, whose heroic efforts to save his vessel have been so warmly and justly extolled, was one of the political prisoners who were incarcerated in the *Casa de Correção* by the government of Marshal Floriano Peixoto.

—The reporters of the *Jornal do Brasil* were hunting the will-o'-the-wisp on the evening of the 14th. The gossips of the cafe had it that Prudente had returned and the *Jornal*'s reporters were trying to find whether it were true. But no one knew, and it took half a column to say so.

—The *Jornal do Commercio* gives some excellent reasons why immigrants should not be ill treated in Brazil; but its attempt to deduce therefrom the conclusion that immigrants never are badly treated here is unquestionably a *non sequitur*. It reminds us of the arguments in support of slaveholding.

—It would be a curious circumstance were Alexandre Hing to be condemned for defaults in connection with public funds, while Barão de Caparapó remains untried, and the ex-treasurer and paymaster of the Central railway go free. However, justice is a queer thing, and there is no predicting what may happen.

—Complaints are made of the destruction of forests on the Gávea and Jardim Botânico side of the city. But what is the use of complaining? A municipal government which authorizes or permits the destruction of beautiful shade trees in the city, will not take much trouble to protect the hill-side forests in the suburbs.

—It would be interesting to know why the government continues to permit the mint to engage in work for which it was not designed. It costs the taxpayer a good sum of money, and yet no objection is raised to its maintaining schools, printing and engraving offices, a bronze foundry, and the tool only knows what else!

—At 1 o'clock a. m. on Wednesday a dynamite bomb was thrown by some unknown person into a room in which a man was sleeping in the house of Dr. Fernandes Pinheiro at No. 65 Rua das Laranjeiras. Considerable damage was done to the building and furniture; but the man was, fortunately, not injured.

—In the guard-house of the 10th battalion of infantry, according to the *Gazeta do Notícias*, there are three prisoners whom the military authorities are endeavoring to force to enlist in the army. One of them, who has been in custody ever since the 6th of last month, is said to be the sole support of an aged mother.

—Nearly every day there are made new disclosures of frauds in the recent municipal and congressional elections. It is a pity that there cannot be found a few public-spirited men able and willing to take the matter in hand and cause these vitiated elections to be annulled and the authors of the frauds to be duly punished.

—The irrepressible Col. Torres Homem has been appointed to command the Rio Grande military school. He is one of those who advocate military interference in everything from the manipulation of a soup-bone in the kitchen to the negotiation of a treaty with a foreign power or the preparation of laws for the protection and development of industry and commerce.

—From all accounts the beautiful shade trees along the old aqueduct road are doomed. The electric tramway proposes to spoil that old road altogether, and give us only an excuse for an improvement. And as the prefect and the director of the tramway are brother *medicos* and intimate friends, they will do as they please regardless of public interests.

—Dr. José de Saldanha da Gama, who, for being a brother of the admiral, was dismissed by the government of Marshal Floriano Peixoto from the directorship of the Polytechnic School, has been appointed by the present government supervising engineer of the Barão de Ararauna railway and of the Quissamá and Sapucaia central sugar mills with a salary of \$8,000 per annum.

—On Wednesday the supreme court adjourned in token of respect for the memory of Dr. Souza Martins and on Saturday the whole of the sitting was occupied with *habeas corpus* cases. The court was consequently unable to take action on the case for testing the constitutionality of the restrictive clause in the amnesty law, on which, we presume, it will render its decision to-morrow.

—It is now reported that Gen. Weyler has begun to arrest and imprison the women who have husbands, brothers or sons in the Cuban army, hoping in this way to detach such men from the insurgent ranks. Such a measure is worthy of Weyler and his cause. The murders, executions and oppressions of which the Spaniards in Cuba are guilty, ought to rouse the civilized world against them.

—It is asserted that the Krupp field artillery ordered by the government of Marshal Floriano Peixoto, will have to be sent back to Europe for the purpose of undergoing certain alterations. This artillery is said to have cost several thousand contos.

—Building No. 43 Rua do Ypiranga was destroyed by fire Wednesday. The owner, who resided in the building, saved a very small part of his household property. There was no insurance. Building No. 45, which is insured for \$5,000, was somewhat damaged. The firemen, after their arrival at the burning house had to wait an hour and a quarter before they were able to obtain water.

—It is pleasing to note that the minister of interior has lost no time in taking precautions against the cases of cholera reported as having occurred on the steamer *Náutico*, now in rigorous quarantine at Plymouth, England. The minister might have waited until there was some danger, but, it is wise, says the ancient philosopher, to be cautious out of season, as well as in season. If the minister was as energetic toward the epidemic diseases already dwelling with us—but that is another question.

—We are under obligations to Messrs. J. R. Chatenay & Co., of the new mineral water factory "A Cimbreria", for samples of some of their products, viz.:—ginger ale, soda water, quinine tonic, and pine apple champagne. The samples show that the factory is prepared to furnish a first-class article, and at prices much below the cost of imported goods. The factory is under the supervision of a practical chemist and manufacturer, who will employ the best English methods, and will supply a strictly reliable article.

—The *Jornal do Commercio* wishes to know who was the author of the brilliant idea of bringing Canadian immigrants to Brazil. Well, as a son of Minister Bernardo de Campos was appointed immigration agent in Canada by the state government of S. Paulo, and as the immigrants were brought to Brazil by that government, we presume the latter, in default of other claimants, is entitled to the credit of originating the idea. Some of the credit, however, may possibly belong to the press which failed to protest when the idea was made public.

—Up to last Thursday there had been for some time a dearth of sensational reports; but on that day they once more began to circulate. It was then reported that President Prudente de Morais had secretly returned to this city, presumably for the purpose of resuming office, which, apparently, it was expected, would be opposed. It was also said that on Friday the jacobins would hold a meeting and pass resolutions endorsing the administration of Vice-President Manoel Vicentino. The meeting, however, was not held, nor had Prudente come down from Theresópolis.

—On the 14th was published a municipal decree creating a new tax, called a sanitary tax and providing for a municipal service for the removal of refuse and garbage from dwellings and offices. The tax is a heavy one, but if the service is properly executed no one will complain. In all probability, however, the service will not be properly executed. It will provide for another small army of public employees, however, and as the expenditure is estimated at \$745,400 for salaries per annum and \$1,738,500 for material, it will mean the waste of a very large sum of money. The decree is not to go into effect so far as the house service is concerned until the furnaces have been built and the carts purchased.

—The *Jornal do Commercio* of the 13th informs its readers with justifiable pride and satisfaction that it had received a subscription from far-off Japan, and even gives the name of the subscriber (who is henceforth to be classified among the immortals) and the means by which he proposes to pay for his subscription. The *Jornal* will accept our hearty congratulations. It is a great thing to be so celebrated, and to be known on the other side of the globe. In all probability the *Páiz* has never yet reached that stage of distinction. It so happens, however, that *The Rio News* has also received a subscription from Japan, by the same mail, from the same gentleman and on the same conditions. We had no intention of announcing the fact, it must be confessed, for it is a common occurrence for *The News* to be sought for from the farthest parts of the earth, but as the *Jornal* has fired off a rocket we can do no less than follow the example.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

Procs Correntes N. 17 da Casa Philatélica do Alph. Bruck. A catalogue and price list of rare and ordinary postage stamps for sale by this well known dealer. The size of the catalogue, about 60 pages, is eloquent testimony of the dimensions to which the business has grown.

BUSINESS NOTES

—The director-general of the postoffice has authorized an expenditure of \$30,000 on the postoffice building in this city.

—We see that the agents of one of the Italian steamship lines is selling in S. Paulo pre-paid passages from Italy to Brazil, 3rd class, for 100 francs.

—The minister of finance has appointed Sr. Antonio Roberto de Vasconcellos to be inspector of the Santos custom-house. The new official arrived at Santos on the 16th inst.

—The cotton factory at Piracicaba has closed and owes it operatives 4 months' pay.

—During the years 1894 and 1895 the exports from Great Britain to Brazil showed a decrease of \$1,104,390 (United States money), the totals being \$36,699,930 in 1894 and \$35,595,540 in 1895.

—The municipal council of Moçâo, São Paulo, has imposed a tax of 100 to 200 reis a kilo on the beef sold in certain shops. This may imply liberty of commerce, but it does not look like it.

—Before the federal court of this city Pedro Gracie Junior has protested against the collection of a higher duty on kerosene than 70 reis per kilo. He claims that kerosene and jerked beef should enjoy the special 30% abatement.

—The Engineering Club at its meeting on Friday passed resolutions expressing regret that the government in executing its retrenchment policy should commence with the service of public works, thus reducing the means of subsistence of engineers.

—The appointment of political partisans to high judicial positions tends to defeat the ends of justice. It is not the function of a court to defend political ideals, but to protect the legal rights and privileges of the citizen. If a man can not divest himself of partisan bias, he has no business on the bench.

—The minister of marine is said to have signed the contract for the purchase of the coasting steamer *Itapu* for the sum of \$1,200,000, the company to make certain specified alterations at its own cost before delivery. The steamer will become a transport and will be called the *Carlos Gomes*.

—A formal trial of the floating derrick belonging to the war arsenal was made on the 14th, in presence of the Vice-President and other officials. The trial was reported successfully, it being stated that the derrick could lift a weight of 10 tons. The machine was christened the "Marechal de Ferro".

—During the quarter ending 31st December last 90 transfers of property were registered in Araraquara, São Paulo, covering an aggregate value of \$59,345,533, on which the taxes were \$3,054,875. There is evidently some mistake in the figures, due probably to bad proof-reading, as the tax should not be less than 6 per cent.

—It is telegraphed from Rio Grande that the jerked beef business is paralysed for lack of cattle. In that case, what are the chances for that new enterprise for shipping live cattle to Rio, which was announced a short time past? If there are no cattle for jerked beef, then it is reasonable to presume there will be none for fresh beef.

—The *Jornal do Brasil* of the 16th says: "We know that the government intends to acquire for our navy the steamer *Isopé*, the property of the Companhia Nacional de Navegação Costeira. This is another illustration of how we economise. When the Brazilian government begins to talk of economy, it is time to look about for the new expenditures it has in view."

—Owing to the low rate of exchange in Brazil, which affected adversely both expenses and remittances, the directors of the Amazon Steam Navigation Company are unable to declare an interim dividend, but they have resolved to make a distribution of 2 per cent. for the half-year ending 30th June, 1896, to be paid out of the reserve fund of the company. *Transport*, London, Dec. 25.

—The following pithy notice, said to have been posted on the door of a bank out in Arizona, might be closely paraphrased and put on the door of many a business house here in Rio de Janeiro, even taunting some of the celebrated "three hundred":—"This bank has not busted; it owes the people \$56,000; the people owe it \$55,000; it is the people who are busted; when they pay, we'll pay."

—The telegraph is certainly a great institution here in Brazil. We received a telegram from São Paulo on Saturday last, which came through (including delivery) in the extraordinarily quick time of 42 hours. The telegram was dispatched at about 5 p. m. on the 14th and was delivered in our office about midday on the 16th. The postoffice could have beaten this record by several hours.

—The statement that Messrs. Jage Brothers had reduced the price of their coal to the Central railway, compared with their tender, is denied by that firm. Their tender comprised several prices based on conditions of delivery and payment, and the director of the Central accepted the lowest, which requires the road to receive the coal on board in this harbor and to pay for the same within one month.

—At the beginning of last year two false drafts were negotiated in Campinas and São Paulo, and Benjamin Lacote was arrested as the author. On the 16th inst., almost a year after the crime was committed, the case came up for trial and the accused was acquitted. The principal line of defense was, to the effect that the crime was committed in another place, and could not therefore be tried in São Paulo. The public prosecutor appealed.

—If American coal mine owners can furnish coal in Brazil, equal to the English coal in use here, for the price stipulated in the Central railway tender of Mr. Yambrt, then there is no reason why they should not virtually control the market, providing they proceed in a business-like way. They should either establish deposits here, or else some coal merchant should locate here, and capital enough should be invested in the business to meet every emergency. They should never subject their business to such a *falso* as that of the Central railway contract for 1897.

—The N. Y. *Journal of Commerce* of Dec. 14th publishes the following business items:

"A prominent sewing machine company claims to have shipped last week for the port of Pará, Brazil, alone 1,000 sewing machines."

"Two caravans of furniture, containing principally chairs and tables, will leave this port by sailing vessel for northern Brazil about the 19th inst."

—According to a German official publication the trade between Germany and Brazil in 1894, reduced to United States money, was as follows:

	1895	1894
Imports	\$27,327,395	\$21,722,974
Exports	\$17,845,458	\$13,568,618

This shows a very rapid increase, both in imports and exports. Germany is the principal customer for Brazil's tobacco crop, and is also a large buyer of Brazilian coffee. On the other hand, the exports of German products to Brazil is steadily increasing, and has received a substantial increase of late years through the heavy purchases of war material in that country.

—The *Handels-Museum* says that German imports into Brazil are constantly increasing. Germany shares now in the total imports to the extent of 60 per cent. The development of industry in Brazil, particularly as regards the manufacture of hats, perfume, soap, candles, gold ware, beer, etc., lessens the imports without doubt; however, other countries, such as Great Britain, Sweden, Italy, and the United States, suffer therefrom far more than Germany does. The high customs' duties, which were recently still more increased, and which are now tantamount to 90 per cent. on an average of the manufacturing value, call for the special attention of importers.

FINANCIAL NOTES

—The *Jornal do Brasil* says that there is a deficit of over 200,000\$ in the mint.

—At Pelotas the customs receipts amounted last year to 2,745,285\$155, against 3,065,630\$137 in 1895.

—The receipts of the municipality of Pará for 1897 are estimated at 2,414,000\$, and the expenditures 2,406,913\$730.

—The treasury received two cases of 50\$ bank notes from the American Bank Note Co. by the L. & H. steamer *Helvelin*.

—On the 16th the *Gazeta do Notícias* stated that defalcation of over 100,000\$ had been discovered in the treasury department.

—It is said that the government made a very profitable transaction with the silver recently coined at the mint. What becomes of the coined silver we do not know.

—The new Banque Française du Brasil has purchased the building on Rua da Quitanda formerly occupied by the Banco Constructor, which is to be thoroughly refitted. The ground floor, it is expected, will be ready for occupation next month.

—The municipal council has authorized the prefect to borrow not exceeding £6,000,000 sterling for sanitary improvements in this city. The loan is based upon the guarantee of the federal government, which has not been given. The prefect is authorized to impose new and increased taxes for the service of the loan.

—The *Jornal do Brasil* of the 15th says that telegrams have been received to the effect that the long-negotiated loan for Minas Geraes will soon be signed in Paris. It is said that the conditions have been agreed to on both sides. The *Jornal* says that this affords our credit abroad. Perhaps it would be better to first know what the conditions are before discussing that point. Almost any country can arrange a loan in some kind of terms, and such terms might prove a very distressing lack of credit.

—The total revenue receipts of the state of Pará for the fiscal year 1894-95, which recently published, were \$1,161,869,954, of which \$3,306,569,673 were from export duties, 757,739\$775 from the tax on industries and professions, 410,988\$533 from the tax on the transfers of property, 359,122\$752 from the stamp tax, 163,842\$159 on the landing tax on merchandise, etc. There is no sign of a land tax. Of the export tax, the 21% on rubber \$7,963,345\$75, the 8% on cheviots \$68,718\$111, and the 10% on the skins of animals \$10,597\$161.

AN IMPORT-INT. RECIFICATION.

With regard to the reports telegraphed from Paris about the cause of the death of Mr. A. R. Oakes, manager of the London and Brazilian Bank in that city, who was well known and highly esteemed in many other cities in Brazil where he had held important and trustworthy positions in the same bank, Mr. J. Mackenzie writes us as follows:

"I am requested by our Head Office in London to ask you to contradict the report, to which you gave currency in your impression of 22nd December last, respecting the lamentable death of Mr. Oakes, manager of this bank. I am now in a position to affirm, that not only the business of the branch, but also Mr. Oakes' private affairs were in perfect order, and that the press notices attributing the death to speculations were absolutely devoid of foundation."

We are deeply gratified to be able to correct in so conclusive a manner the damaging reports sent out in regard to Mr. Oakes' affairs. We have no idea how they originated, but in justice to his memory and to his family, we trust that they may never be mentioned again.

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